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to my good friends Mr. Jas. Lason, Mr. Morris, his wife and Dr. Innis forty shillings apiece to buy them a ring. I give to Bro. Robert and his wife 3 pounds sterling to buy them each a ring. To Bro. Chas. 3 pounds sterling to buy him a ring. I hereunto set my hands this 4th day of June one thousand six hundred & ninety.

Declared to be the last will &c. of Col. Jno. Cartir by him in presence of us John Morris, James Innis, Margaret Biggins. At a Court held for the County of Lancaster June 11th Anno Dom. 1690. John Morris, James Innis, Margaret Biggins made oath that they heard Col. John Carter dec'd. declare this will to be his last will & testament & was in perfect sense and in disposing memory to the best of their apprehension. Test.

JOHN STRETCHLY (Cl. Cur.)

Recorded 13th day following.

[The testator was the eldest son of Col. John Carter, of Corotoman, and had only one child, the daughter Elizabeth, who married John Lloyd, and died without issue. The brother, Charles, also died young and unmarried, and the bulk of the estate passed to Robert, afterwards the well known "King" Carter.]

BOOK REVIEWS.

THE ORIGINS OF THE BRITISH COLONIAL SYSTEM, 1578-1660. By George Louis Beer, author of "British Colonial Policy, 1754-1765." New York, The Macmillan Company, 1908.

Students of American history are glad to know that Mr. Beer is planning a series of volumes on the developement of the British Colonial system from the earliest attempts at colonization in America up to 1754. These volumes, together with his work on the "British Colonial Policy, 1754-1765," will bring the history of England's Colonial Policy up to the Stamp Act. The entire colonial period of American history has been very inadequately treated. Doyle's works are not reliable, but in Professor Osgood's "American Colonies," and Mr. Beer's works, we are getting a new view point as to the life and conditions of colonial days.

Mr. Beer recognizes the close relation between the political and economic life of the English people in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, but necessarily his discussion deals mainly with the economic features of the old British Empire. The work under consideration has twelve chapters, dealing first with the beginning of the English expan-

sion; second, emigration and over-population; third, the economic theory of colonization; fourth, the early history of tobacco; fifth, the English fiscal system and the colonies, 1604-1620; sixth, the Stuart regulation of the tobacco industry; seventh, restrictions on colonial export trade; eighth, the exclusion of foreigners from colonial trade; ninth, the economic development of the colonies, 1607-1642; tenth, the imperial administrative system, 1606-1640; eleventh, the Empire during the Civil War, 1642-1649; twelfth, the colonial policy of the Commonwealth and Protectorate, 1649-1660.

The work is an historian's book in view of the fact that every statement is backed up by a foot-note. He has consulted all the publications relating to the colonial period before 1660, both English and American; also many manuscripts in the British Museum, such as the Egerton, the Rawlinson MSS in the Bodleian, the published and manuscript records of Parliament, the Admiralty Papers, Calendars of State Papers, the papers of the Public Record Office of London, and also the manuscript registers in the Privy Council Office. Many other sources might be cited, but these are sufficient to show that Mr. Beer's researches have been extensive.

The prime importance of Mr. Beer's work lies in bringing before us the fact that before 1660 was inaugurated the English system of colonial restrictions which came to be the policy of the Empire until the English people turning to free trade, removed all restrictions upon the colonies and built anew within the nineteenth century a new Empire with practically no strings tied to the colonies, demanding no allegiance of them save such as would naturally be produced by common interest and racial ties not unlike that which existed between the Greek States and their colonies.

Very accurately has Mr. Beer shown that England's expansion in the seventeenth century was the result of England's desire to enjoy commerce equal to, if not greater, than any other European nation. The East India trade for a time seemed forever beyond England's grasp, and her only possibility seemed to turn westward in which direction some hardy fisherman from the western ports of England had shown possibilities by engaging in fishing on the banks of Newfoundland. Moreover it is not to be forgotten that England hoped to secure a passage either by the northeast or northwest to Asia. But the bitter conflict between Spain and England was chiefly responsible for driving England to the New World. Hawkins, Drake, Gilbert and others of equal foresight feared the growth of Spain in the New World, hence Gilbert's efforts, succeeded by Raleigh's, to establish a footing upon American soil. Suddenly the English met with some success by the organization of the East India Company, and with other causes resulted in the establishment of a commercial company for the settlement of Virginia. It is not to be forgotten, however, that soon after settling

Virginia, England took possession of the Bermudas and some islands further south of the West Indies. These colonial undertakings were made chiefly by charters, but they were public in their character rather than individual, though they resulted from individual initiative and enterprise. Therefore, one thing to note is that every charter contained an immunity of one kind or another, usually an exemption from those laws of England which forbade the importation of certain commodities into the realm.

Mr. Beer makes particularly plain the contact in the early days between the English on the one hand and the Spanish, the French and the Dutch colonies on the other; such, for instance, as the attack in 1613 by Captain Argall on the French settlements in Nova Scotia, and a few years later the action of a Virginia planter in seizing a French vessel off the coast of New England. Also he notes Virginia's attitude in 1631 towards the Dutch in New York. These are facts which have not been brought out by our historians.

He emphasizes with great stress that the colonization of America by the English was fundamentally an economic movement. He takes the view, which, I believe, a careful study of history will show to be correct, that while the Puritans who settled New England emphasized in their writings the religious side, as a matter of fact the religious motive was superficially prominent and was fundamentally subordinate, and that the real New England spirit can be gotten from the point of view of Sir Ferdinando Gorges, who urged more foreign plantations on the ground that it added glory and greatness to a nation by the "increase of trade and commerce which always brings with it increase of shipping and mariners; matters, this kingdom of all others hath most reason to be careful of, in that, our safety doth much consist therein." Due to economic conditions in England, there was much pauperism, and this made possible the establishment of colonies for economic reasons in the New World.

A study of English conditions explains why it was that the early settlers were constantly searching for mines, as there was great demand for more metallic currency in England. Most of England's supplies for her shipping and potash for use in woolen manufacture came from along the shores of the Baltic, and at any time these might be cut off by hostile conditions. Consequently, there was a great desire to provide new resources, so that the trade along the Baltic might be lost without injury; so not only were the colonies established for increasing the volume of trade, but for self-protection, commercially speaking.

The first article of trade resulting from the English settlements in America was tobacco, and with reference to the growth and development of the tobacco trade Mr. Beer goes into much detail, showing how tobacco used in England at the time of the founding of Virginia was derived from the Spanish-American colonies and was heavily taxed; how

this tax was removed and then replaced and constantly changed, resulting in dissatisfaction in America and also among English merchants, and causing a fluctuation in the market value of tobacco. The English policy on the whole, however, was to divert the colonies from an overproduction of tobacco and advise the production of other commodities. Mr. Beer cites the Colonial Papers to show that the Bermudas and other islands in the West Indies under English control were advised to raise "hemp, flax, wines and other good and staple commodities," mentioning among them also "sugars and cottons"; advising the same likewise for Virginia. This was as early as 1636.

The discussion of the steps by which the colonies got a monopoly of the English markets is particularly interesting, especially so, when one discovers that the granting of monopolies to control the tobacco trade was responsible for the demand that colonial products should be shipped to English markets first and from English ports to be distributed to other portions of Europe (if reshipped at all), thus laying the foundation for the Navigation Acts and the restriction of trade, which were to become of so much importance in the 18th century. Charles I was determined that all colonial products should come to England before going to any foreign market. In this connection, Mr. Beer says: "An analysis of the economic ideas underlying the early English colonial movement leads to the conclusion that the chief function of the dependencies was to supply England with commodities that were essential to her development but which she herself could not produce. From this fact it inevitably followed that the colonies would not be permitted freely to export their produce to foreign countries because, in the eyes of the English government, such action would nullify the most fundamental of the reasons that justified a policy of colonial expansion." And right here it is interesting to note that Emanuel Downing, in defending Massachusetts in 1633, intimated that "in time they (the people of Massachusetts) will revolt from their allegiance and join in trade with strangers and so deprive the land of those staple commodities which that country may afford us." Of course, as a necessary corollary from the English principle of restricting colonial trade followed the exclusion of foreigners from any trade with the American colonies. Especially did the Dutch disturb the English, and this fact furnished one of the motives which impelled the English to seize the New Netherlands.

The treatment of the imperial administration from 1606 to 1640 gives us a decided new view point, first of all showing that the relation of Virginia to England was feudal; secondly, that though the Crown claimed that Parliament could not act on American affairs, yet, as early as 1621, Parliament did assert the right to legislate concerning America, even claiming at one time that parliamentary sanction should be given to all colonial charters. In the period under consideration, the superintend-

ency of the American colonies by a committee of the Privy Council, known as the Board of Trade, not fully established until the 18th century, was foreshadowed by special commissions appointed by the Crown, and really as early as 1634, there was appointed a standing committee of the Privy Council for foreign plantations; and thus to the Privy Council, presided over by the King, fell the ultimate decision of matters pertaining to the colonies. So in the early days of American colonization the Privy Council had more to do with American affairs than historians have thought, for the Privy Council, and the commissioners subordinate to it, assumed to hear appeals from the decisions of the colonial courts. In general, we might say that in the early days the British-Colonial system was fixed by the King in Council until Charles I engaged in war with Parliament, resulting in the establishment of parliamentary rule at home, and preparing the way for the passage of a number of Navigation Acts by Parliament after the Restoration.

Students of Colonial history will eagerly await the appearance of Mr. Beer's second volume, in which, doubtless, will be shown the inconsistencies of England's colonial policy, in part shaped by the King in Council, and in part by Parliament. In his first volume, Mr. Beer has laid well the foundations for a study of the British Colonial system.

J. A. C. CHANDLER.

[In the multiplicity of topics to be treated, Dr. Chandler has not mentioned one of the most curious facts developed by Mr. Beer—that during the early years of the Seventeenth Century, the cultivation of tobacco was regarded, not only by King James, but by the leaders of the Virginia Company, as much a moral as an economic evil. They felt in regard to it, says the author, as men of later days felt towards the opium trade to China.—Ed.]

THE ASSASSINATION OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN AND ITS EXPIATION. By David Miller Dewitt. The Macmillan Co., 1909, pp. ix, 302.

Having read the author's carefully prepared and scholarly Impeachment and Trial of Andrew Johnson, we welcomed the appearance of this work and find it fully up to the standard he has set for himself. To the events surrounding the tragic event of the 14th of April, 1865, he has given a clear setting. The narrative opens with a sketch of the erratic and brilliant Junius Brutus Booth, from whom the son, John Wilkes Booth, appears to have inherited his reckless and partly insane nature. In January, 1865, brooding over the gloomy prospects of his beloved Southern Confederacy, John Wilkes Booth, in his determination to deal a striking blow in its behalf, set on foot in Washington, a plan to seize Lincoln, with the aid of some desperate associates, while he was at Ford's Theatre, and, hurrying him across the Potomac river at